



We Never Forget that
Behind Every Case, are
Real People

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**Messa & Associates Files Suit Against Johnson & Johnson
Says Tainted Tylenol Caused Toddler’s Death**

A lawsuit has been filed by Messa & Associates on behalf of the Estate of River Moore. River Moore’s parents gave him a dose of Very Berry *Children’s Tylenol* after he developed a slightly elevated fever. Less than an hour later, two-year-old River became ill and was taken to the hospital where he died the next day after suffering liver failure.

McNeil and Johnson & Johnson, the manufacturers of Tylenol, initiated a recall in 2010 when some of its products were allegedly contaminated with foreign materials due to an equipment-cleaning problem at its Fort Washington, Pa. plant. Other recalls were issued because of a musty odor coming from the product.

Tylenol contains the active ingredient acetaminophen which has the potential to cause liver damage and even death when taken in large doses. Acetaminophen causes three times as many cases of liver failure as all other drugs combined, and is the most common cause of acute liver failure in the United States.

The pharmaceutical and drug product injury attorneys at Messa & Associates are available to handle cases involving serious injuries and death related to the use of Tylenol. We have handled dozens of cases involving drugs and drug product injuries and obtained verdicts and settlements for victims suffering from these injuries. If you or a loved one has used Tylenol or any other acetaminophen product and suffered serious illness or death, please contact us at 1-877-MessaLaw or visit us at www.messalaw.com.

Recent Settlements and Verdicts

Messa & Associates secured an eight-figure settlement in products liability case against a leading smoke detector manufacturer and major mobile home company where a family of seven perished in a fire. The victims, including five children ages four to eleven, suffered severe burns and smoke inhalation causing their deaths.

The victims’ mobile home came equipped with smoke detectors with ionization technology which failed to provide a timely warning of, what the Pennsylvania State Police investigators determined, was a slow and smoldering fire.

The attorneys and staff at Messa & Associates, P.C. wish you and your loved ones a happy, healthy New Year!

Messa & Associates, P.C.

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January is Cervical Cancer Awareness Month *Prevent the Preventable Cancer*

In 2011, more than 12,000 women were diagnosed with cervical cancer and more than 4,000 women died from it. Cervical cancer is one of the few types of cancers that are preventable. In fact, there are two proven strategies to prevent — not just treat — the disease.

Pap smears do not normally detect cervical cancer, but they can detect precancerous cells that aren't cancer yet but show changes that suggest they could become cancerous. Once the precancerous cells are detected, treatments to either destroy or remove these cells and prevent them from ever becoming a cancer can be administered. On average, women who have regular Pap smears (every two to three years is now recommended for most women) have a much lower risk of developing cervical cancer because, if they have an abnormality, it is often detected in the precancerous stage. Another way to prevent cervical cancer or prevent precancerous cells from ever developing is the HPV vaccination. Most cervical cancers are caused by the HPV virus.

Pap tests and HPV vaccinations are vital for the health of women. This month, make it a priority to schedule an appointment for your preventative care or remind the women in your life to schedule theirs.

Messa & Associates has represented many families in cases involving the delay and misdiagnosis of cancer that results in worsened conditions or death. If you or a loved one has suffered serious injury or death as a result of the delay or misdiagnosis of cervical or any other type of cancer, please contact us at **1-877-MessaLaw** or visit us at www.messalaw.com to discuss your case.

Consumer News: *The Recall Report*

Novartis has announced a recall of 1,645 lots of its over the counter medications, including bottles of Excedrin, NoDoz, Bufferin and Gas-X following concerns that the bottles could contain stray pills from other medicines, or chipped or broken tablets. Customers who take the recalled pills could be at risk for taking pills that they are allergic to or may unknowingly be mixing drugs that could be dangerous when mixed with their other medications resulting in serious injury or death.

The company announced that it would temporarily suspend production at its Lincoln, Neb., plant, where the recalled drugs were manufactured, for "maintenance and other improvement activities" last month.

The attorneys at Messa & Associates have handled dozens of cases involving serious injuries and death related to the use of defective drugs. If you or a loved one has suffered serious injury or death as a result of this or any other recalled product, please contact us at 1-877-MessaLaw or visit us at www.messalaw.com.

FDA to Parents: Use Caution with Infant Acetaminophen Doses

New formulations of the fever medication and infant pain reliever, liquid acetaminophen, has the Food and Drug Administration warning parents to be cautious about the doses given to infants. The new versions of the drug have a lower concentration of the drug, but both versions are still in circulation and could confuse parents and cause them to give doses that are too big or too small.

The FDA offers the following advice to parents:

- Read drug fact labels carefully.
- Don't assume a product labeled "new" has the new, lower concentration.
- Use only the dosing syringe or dropper provided with each package.
- Consult a doctor before giving the medication to children under age 2— and make sure you are talking about the same concentration when a doctor gives you dosing instructions.

Acetaminophen, sold under brands including Tylenol, Little Fevers, Triaminic, Pedia Care and store names, has the potential to cause liver damage and even death when taken in large doses.

"We know you want and deserve the best when it comes to representation. At Messa & Associates, we strive for nothing short of perfection."

MESSA & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
Trial Attorneys

For more information, please call 877-MessaLaw or email GHightower@MessaLaw.com